

DECLASSIFIED AND RELEASED BY  
CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY  
SOURCE METHOD EXEMPTION 3B2B  
NAZI WAR CRIMES DISCLOSURE ACT  
DATE 2007

SUBJECT: STEPANIUK, Petro of D u e s s e l d o r f - W e r s t e n ,  
Potscheiderstrasse 16.

DATE: 14 March 1961

55 yrs. old  
1. S. is Ukrainian, stateless, orthodox, married second time after 1945 in Germany. Born in a small suburban village of LUCK, Volhynia, Western Ukraine. His first wife remained in Western Ukraine with two daughters - one of them - Zinaida (lnu) is married. S. is helping his first wife and daughters in Ukraine with parcels.

S. finished agronomist's college and acquired degree of engineer-agronomist in Poland. He also studied economics as correspondence-student and qualified in bookkeeping in Warsaw. Intelligence and acuteness are not his strongest points, on the contrary, his horizons are rather limited. Is rather talkative and likes to exaggerate and dramatize in presenting events and "facts in particular those of his own life.

2. S. claimed to have joined the OUN in 1933 in Luck. During Soviet occupation 1939-41, he was for a short period member of Oblast Executive and for ~~xxxxxx~~ some time, after SKOBIUK, even in charge of Oblast itself. During German occupation 1941-44, S. collaborated actively with the UPA and supplied it with textiles, leather; food-stuffs etc. The same he actually did also during Soviet occupation in 1939-40 when working in co-operatives. At that time he supported small group of Resistance-members in region of Luck.

After WW II S. did only sympathize with the OUN, was rather discouraged by splits within the OUN, for some time supported Ukrainian National Council (UNRada). He also did not approve some of <sup>the</sup> methods and tactics of the OUN in the past, in particular those from the Soviet period 1939-41 when there were coming instructions from the Centre to start with an almost massive recruitment of new members. Now he is also rather passive and describes his status as that of an "active sympathizer". He would like to see all branches of the OUN united .

3. Before 1939 S. worked as bookkeeper and "director<sup>2</sup> of small co-operatives and banking offices in Luck. At one time he was "director of a small branch of "Spolem" ( Polish co-operative) in LUCK. He entertained formally rather friendly relations with Poles and used it as cover for his OUN-activities.

4. In September 1939 after arrival of Soviets S. joined (as many other members of the OUN) militia to use it again for his underground-activities. At the beginning he worked as a secretary in Rayon-Otdel~~enie~~ in Luck and then for his "systematic bureaucracy" was called to Oblupravleniye of Militia to work in secreatariat under a KHROLENKO,fnu, of Kiev. Shortly afterwards he was denounced by a man of having been a Polish collaborator but S. got out of this mess by presenting 260 signitures from his own and neighbouring locations<sup>stating</sup> that he neither served for the Poles in general nor moreover had anything to do with Polish police. The man who denounced him was also a member of the OUN,employed with Soviet Militia,and when S. was promoted to Oblupravleniye he denounced him without knowing that S.was actually his superior in the OUN. Afterwards he had to flee to Germany and then returned in 1941 with raiding-groups of the OUN.

5. After KHROLENKO's recall to Kiev, S. took actually his position over. He was on very good terms with the chief of Oblupravleniye in Luck who liked him for his bureaucratic orderliness. At the same time S. made friends with a TCHERNIAVSKYI,fnu,Ukrainian of Kiev,chief of Ugolovrozisk in Luck. When S's documents were sent to Kiev for confirmation of his final enlistment with Militia TCHERNIAVSKYI warned him that he (S) would never get out of Militia once he had been "confirmed" in Kiev. He told him "they will use you as long as they will find it necessary for them,and then they will liquidate you,moreover that you are local". Immediately after that, S. decided to resign and with some difficulty his chief let him finally go to Oblpotrebsoyuz as chief of Zahotkontora. He got this position with protection of a friend of his, a Ukrainian from Western Ukraine - MALETS,fnu who was at that time chief of Oblpotrebsoyuz. Very soon ,however, MALETS was replaced by a Ukrainian from KIEV - TERESHTCHENKO,fnu.

6.At that time , under S. were working among others STASYSHYN Borys,Ukrainian of Luck,(now orthodox priest in Australia), who occupied managerial position in storehouses of Zahotkontora and who also supported the OUN; and FILONENKO-SHEWTCHUK,fnu,a Ukrainian from Kiev,CP-candidate whom S. was going to recruite for the OUN.

S. supplied all the time Ukrainian Resistance with textiles and other stuffs and he was helped in that to some extent by STASYSHYN. Also FILONENKO-SHEWTCHUK had some idea about it.

STASYSHYN turned out to be a talkative man. He had boasted

to somebody about his "importance" showing a coupon of the OUN that was given to him by S. as a receipt for his donation of several Rubles for Resistance.

This came somehow to the attention of NKVD. One day when S, just returned from LVIV where he contacted somebody from the OUN, he was told at his office by a Jew that his chief (TERESHTCHENKO) brought yesterday STASYSHYN to the NKVD.

Next day S. asked Stasyshyn what was he doing on that particular day. Stasyshyn tried to conceal his forced visit to the NKVD but finally admitted that NKVD knew about the coupon which he failed to tear into pieces, and under pressure he told them that he got it from S. The NKVD-officer told him then to look after S. and report every week to a contact in ~~exparkskow~~ town-park. For that NKVD-officer promised to save Stasyshyn in the court. S. explained to Stasyshyn that this would not save his skin and finally they both should land in cellar. Therefore, it will be better for Stasyshyn, if they ~~then~~ stick together. S. told him what he has to report on S. in order to whitewash them both. S's idea was to prove <sup>eventually</sup> that he was compelled by OUN "bandits" to accept several coupons and to give them to Stasyshyn too. He had in mind a man (a OUN member) who at that time was in "forest" anyway, and who had to play the role of individual who threatened S. He also knew a few stories backing his "legend" in which the OUN punished severely indeed those who refused to support ~~them~~.

At one time S. was even contemplating to liquidate Stasyshyn in order to assert later on, if need would be, that the whole story was thought out by Stasyshyn to cover himself. He was also thinking of going to woods but he was reluctant to sacrifice his family hoping to get ~~out~~ somehow <sup>out</sup> of this mess.

Amidst his plannings and contemplations, one day ~~xxxxxx~~ in July 1940 he was arrested in his office together with STASYSHYN and FILONENKO-SHEVTCHUK. S. stuck to his story with having been threatened by the OUN and refuted all the accusations based on Stasyshyn's confessions. When his pre-trial investigation was finished the investigating judge told him that he ~~xxx~~ should reckon with ~~xxxxxx~~ life-sentence or 25 years. However, in <sup>the</sup> court, the things turned out a little bit different. S. stuck skillfully to his story, "proved" that Stasyshyn's confessions were obtained by severe pressure, ~~and~~ were false, and "induced" Stasyshyn to ~~xxxxxxx~~ revoke them. Consequently, prosecutor demanded 7 years for S., 8 years for Stasyshyn and release for FILONENKO-SHEVTCHUK what was confirmed

by the judges. The trial took place in LUCK on 8 Feb 1941. S. sat together with Stasyshyn in the same cell in LUCK-prison.

7. On second day after war-declaration by Germans in 1941, 2,800 prisoners in Luck-prison were massed in 13 rows in the prison court and a prosecutor read death sentence in the lump for all who had corresponding paragraphs of the Criminal Code. Then began the execution. From windows and roofs the prisoners were killed by machine guns and handgranades.

When S. came to consciousness again he heard a NKVD-officer calling out all survivors to report to him, and <sup>promising</sup> that there won't be any more shooting. Otherwise, those who fail to report when found alive during clearing up of the court from corpses, will be shot. He repeated it for three times. S. saw some people getting up and reporting to him at the second call.

At the third - S. got up too and reported to the Office. The NKVD-ist told them ( they were 21 in S28 group) that they will live and only those severely wounded will be shot as they won't be able to live anyway. A NKVD-doctor checked them on the spot and found all "suitable" for living although one or two were badly wounded. S. himself was wounded in his right ~~hand~~ arm but now he can move it.

The remainder of prisoners was brought back into cells and then released by Germans. Before that S. tried once to escape from the kitchen but was held up by a watchman. He was not punished for that. Actually, the guards did not care very much at that time.

8. During German occupation S. worked in co-operatives as director or bookkeeper <sup>in LUCK</sup> and supplied again the Underground with textiles, leather, food-stuffs etc.

On denunciation of Poles he was arrested by SD on 23 April 1943 in Luck but after 3 weeks released. He proved to be innocent.

In July 1943 he was arrested again by SD together with many other educated Ukrainians ( in the course of a massive arrest of Ukrainian intelligentsia everywhere in Volynia as repression against the UPA).

S. <sup>was</sup> charged again with helping the UPA and then of being a communist agent. He cleared ~~up~~ very soon himself of the latter ~~an~~ accusation but was still held by SD. Then they were transported to RIVNE and from RIVNE to concentration camp in Brandenburg where from he was released in September 1944, by Germans themselves.

9. After his release from concentration camp S. worked for some time on a big farm near Brandenburg and when the Sovs approached he moved to the West.

After arrival of British he went to a DPcamp near Hamburg. Then he stayed in DP camps in Delmenhorst and others. Later on he moved to Dortmund and finally in 1957 landed in Duesseldorf.

in 1956-58 he worked as UUARC Conncellor for USEP, in Dortmund and in Duesseldorf.

Now he is employed as laborerwith NAAFI furniture-store in Duesseldorf and earns DM 490.- per month.

S's wife (the second one)works in a fashion shop and earns DM 450.- per month. She is Ukrainian, orthodox, 50, born in Kiev and lived there before 1943 when evacuated to Germany. She is teacher of embroidery by profession. During German occupation she worked as cashier in a cinema-theatre for Germans.

They occupy a flat consisting of 3 rooms and 1 kitchen. The rent is DM 97.- per month. Recently they rented one room to a Latvian (80 years old). The house itself is in<sup>a</sup>typical Siedlung for DP's built by Germans.

In 1960 S. was entitled by a court-decision in Duesseldorf to an indemnity<sup>f</sup> for his imprisonment by the Germans and received a pension of DM 120,- per month.

10. In 1959 S's wife lost her son (18 years old) who drowned in a river during scout-camping, somewhere in Bavaria. Since then ~~they~~ she and ~~also~~ S. himself are very depressed.

11. S's wife was recently ~~chosen~~ elected ~~to be~~ chairman of <sup>the</sup> Association of Ukrainian Women in Duesseldorf.